**Utility Patent** Ser. No 10/033,862

BEFORE THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE re Application of: Pat YANANTON Date: January 4, 2007 Serial No.: 10/033,862 Group Art Unit: 3644 Filed: 12/20/2001 Examiner: Richard PRICE Title: Absorbent Pad for Entrapping Fine and Coarse Particles, Retaining Liquids, and Eliminating Odors Certificate of Mailing **Certificate of Transmission** I hereby certify that this correspondence is being I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope Trademark Office, Fax No. (571) - 273 - 8300 on addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, P.O. (date). Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on (date). Printed name of person signing this certificate Typed or printed name of person signing this certificate

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## **DECLARATION OF GARY G. ORTON UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.132**

Now comes declarant and states and declares the following:

- 1. I am currently the Plant Manager for the Felters Group in Gaffney, South Carolina with responsibility for all operatics of a Needlepunch Nonwovens plant
- That I also have other experience as shown in the attached Curriculum Vitae, which is 2. referenced as if fully restated herein.

- 3. That I am familiar with the invention described in the <u>Butterworth et al.</u> patent, and have reviewed and understand the present invention.
- 4. I feel that there are significant differences in the problems being attacked by the present invention, and those attacked by the <u>Butterworth</u> invention. In my opinion, the <u>Butterworth</u> patent and the present patent application use a similar process in the formation of an airlaid bat, but the finished product, the process of achieving the finished product and the application of the finished product are completely different.
- 5. The combination of high loft fibers, particle entrapping tackifiers, and backing would not be considered "ordinary skill in the art". The <u>Butterworth</u> structure could not be used to attain the functionality as described by the present invention.
- 6. I feel that these functional differences are major and significant, such as to make the <a href="Butterworth">Butterworth</a> device completely different art from the present invention.
- 7. In addition, there are many other functional and structural difference between the present invention and that described in <u>Butterworth</u>; particularly: cling agent charged into preformed web; reactive particles attached to cling agent; and reactive particles loaded into web; and additional agents loaded into web. Additionally, many other differences exist as well.
- 8. I feel the present invention embodies non-obvious differences over anything currently described or claimed in the <u>Butterworth</u> patent.
- 9. I feel the present invention embodies non-obvious differences over anything currently offered within the industry or anything currently described or claimed in the

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Butterworth patent.

FURTHER DECLARANT SAITH NAUGHT.

Gary G. Orton

95%

#### GARY G. ORTON 12021 Lake Ridge Lane Seneca, South Carolina 29672 864-885-9745

#### Summary of Experience

More than fifteen (15) years experience in manufacturing and military service with emphasis on management and leadership. Extensive background in budget development and administration, cost reduction, throughput improvement, JIT, statistical process control, GMP's, ISO certification, safety, project management and team development.

1996 to Present Kendall Healthcare Products Company, Seneca, South Carolina.

A 640-employee facility producing healthcare products and medical devices.

<u>Production Manager</u>: Responsible to Plant Manager for control of all aspects of the production process for 7 major product lines. Managed a budget of over \$40,000,000 and supervised 3 area superintendents with 18 supervisors and 550 hourly employees.

- Implemented programs to reduce costs including waste reduction improvement teams, process changes and automation. Net Result: Decreased costs by 12% from \$51,740,677 to \$46,249,805 while supporting a 4% increase in volume.
- Worked as a key member of a team that achieved ISO 9002 and EN 46002 certification in less than one (1) year.
- Identified bottlenecks and implemented process changes to improve throughput. Net Result: Decreased plant back order standing from \$548,000 to under \$50,000 in one (1) year.
- Strengthened plant safety program through increased employee involvement and expanding safety investigations to include near misses. Net Result: Achieved a below-industry average accident frequency rate of 1.3 accidents per 200,000 man-hours and no lost time accidents.

1992 to 1996 Assoulap, Incorporated, South San Francisco, California.

A 350-employee facility producing and distributing precision surgical instrumentation.

Manufacturing Manager: Responsible to the President for managing company's national instrument repair service and start up of a local manufacturing facility for surgical instruments. Managed staff of 6 exempt and 35 non-exempt employees, and an operating budget of \$4,100,000.

- Designed and implemented a corrective action program for repair quality. Net Result: Decreased customer complaints by 50%.
- Developed and implemented a cross training program and reorganized the repair process. Net Result: Decreased operating expenses by 12% while supporting a 28% increase in revenue.
- Directed the start up of a manufacturing department to include machinery, facilities and production control.

1990 to

Corus Medical Corporation, Sunnyvale, California.

1992

A 250-employee facility processing and distributing blood and components to hospitals.

<u>Director of Operations</u>: Responsible to the Vice President of Operations for managing a start up commercial and manufacturing venture with 10 satellite offices and 80 employees in the areas of materials, nursing, laboratory, customer service and distribution. Administered an annual operating budget of \$5,500,000.

- Established a strong management team and improved manpower utilization. Net Result:
   Decreased costs by 8% or \$520,000 annually and turned around an operation losing \$310,000
   annually to break even within one (1) year.
- Implemented a comprehensive quality assurance program to decrease administrative and operational errors. Net Result: Decreased customer complaints by 28%.
- · Scheduled, processed and distributed 26,000 components annually.

# 1986 to McGaw Incorporated, Irvine, California. 1990 An 800-employee facility producing pharmaceutical products.

Manufacturing Superintendent: Responsible to the Production Manager for managing 5 exempt supervisors and 60 employees in the start up of 5 new product lines which produced 24,000,000 units annually under strict compliance to FDA and OSHA regulations. Control included budget preparation, implementing initial maintenance program, creating and implementing material usage tracking and labor reporting systems, hiring production and technical personnel, and developing on-going process improvement programs.

1987 <u>Technical Supervisor</u>, Responsible to Superintendent for scheduling, budget preparation, to maintenance support and overall production output for department. Supervised a Blow Molding operation with 60 employees and 10 Beckum blow molding machines.

- Implemented statistical process control, JIT and a tool control program. Net Result: Decreased
  material waste by \$130,000 per month, increased shift efficiency by 9% and maintained the highest
  release rate in the department.
- Promoted to Manufacturing Superintendent.
- 1986 <u>Production Supervisor</u>: Responsible to Superintendent for scheduling, budget preparation, to maintenance support, robotics application and overall production output of a manufacturing line with 30 employees.
  - Streamlined the process, trained and motivated team. Net Result: Increased department efficiency by 5% and decreased reject rate by 10%.
  - Promoted to Technical Supervisor.

### 1981 to <u>United States Army</u> 1986 A branch of the United States Military Service.

1985 <u>Intelligence and Security Officer</u>, Korea: Responsible to Battalion Operations Officer for compound security of a 500-man battalion utilizing 9 Intelligence personnel, a 13-man unit police detachment and a 45-man Korean security guard force.

## Resume of Gary G. Orton Page 3.

Increased training status and efficiency of unit personnel by developing 4 comprehensive programs
in areas of Nuclear Surety and Security. Net Result: Turned an operation that failed a Nuclear
Surety Inspection into one that received a "No Observations" inspection within one (1) year.

Operations Officer, Fort Lewis, Washington: Responsible to Battalion Operations Officer for Planning, coordinating and executing all major operations for a 500-man battalion including field operations and air lifts.

1981 Junior Officer, Fort Lewis, Washington: Responsible to Battery Commander while serving as a
 1984 Junior Officer in the Field Artillery. Positions held included Survey Officer, Fire Direction Officer,
 1984 Personnel Officer and Battery Executive Officer.

 Received the Division Outstanding Junior Officer Award; Division Artillery Personnel Administration Center Award; and Division Quarterly Maintenance Award.

#### **EDUCATION**

Bachelor of Science Degree with concentration in Civil Engineering, United States Military Academy, West Point, New York, 1981.

#### **SEMINARS**

Leadership 2000, 1996.
Process Validation, 1995.
Statistical Process Control, 1990.
Schonberger's World Class Manufacturing Principles, 1990.
Total Quality Management based on Deming's Fourteen Points, 1990.